

I am commenting in support of the ARRL petition for restructuring. The petition is the next logical step in restructuring. It reduces the work load for the FCC in that there will be a smaller number of license classes for record keeping without anyone losing privileges. It keeps a minimal cw requirement for the top license and reduces the work load on the volunteer examiners. The cw requirement is an emotional issue for many hams and reminds me of the issues dealt with when single side band came about. CW is an obsolete mode and there are many newer digital methodologies which are more efficient. To maintain the cw requirement or increase it is both illogical and would keep many people from even pursuing a license and reduce the numbers of emergency operators available in emergency situations. It is in the government's interest to maintain a pool of trained communicators for such emergencies. This proposal would help maintain that pool and reduce the work load of record keeping on the FCC.